

Serial No. 09/546,833**PATENT**
Docket No. RAL920000042US1**REMARKS**

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed September 14, 2005.

Claims 3, 6, 10, 13, 23, 27, 29, 31, and 37 are objected to because of informalities set forth on Page 2 of the Office Action. Applicants have reviewed the informalities set forth in the Office Action and have amended the claims as set forth above. It is believed that these amendments remove any informalities that may have been in the claims.

Claims 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the Examiner seems to argue data set forth in lines 6 and 8 of the claim are confusing because it is not clear if the data is the same.

In response applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner and point out that each of the data set forth in the claim is qualified based upon the function or use for which the data is to be used. It is applicants' contention that this distinction based upon function is sufficient to distinguish between the different types of data. Notwithstanding, in order to promote the prosecution of this application the claim is amended as set forth above. It is believed with this amendment which changes one of the data to parameters any unclearness that may have been in the claim is now removed.

Claims 1-3, 5-8, 10-24, and 34-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gallo et al (US Pub 2004/0228339 A1).

In response applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner and argue for reasons set forth herein, the claims are not anticipated by cited reference.

Before pointing out the difference between the claimed invention and the reference applicants give a brief summary of the law as applied to the rejection

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under 35 U.S.C. 102 (anticipation). In order to reject a claim based upon anticipation every element or feature of the claim must be found in a single reference. It is applicants contention that every element and feature of the rejected claims are not found in Gallo et al. reference. In particular, the claims require that the header form by the ingress processor and forward to the egress processor includes code or parameter identifying a beginning address of picocode instructions stored in said egress processor and data, generated by ingress processor, to be used as required by said pico-code instructions being executed. No such teaching is disclosed or suggested in Gallo et al. In Gallo et. al. only starting address information is forwarded from the hardware classifier to the pico processor. See Gallo et al, page 6, paragraph 0067, last sentence. Stated another way in Gallo et al. no preprocessed data generated by the ingress processor and starting address of picocode instructions as set forth in the claimed invention is disclosed. Because of this difference it is applicants' contention, the claims are not anticipated by Gallo et al.

Claim 9 is objected to but would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, Claim 9 is rewritten in independent form and now in a condition for allowance.

Claim 10, among other things, calls for ".....said header includes a field which identifies the number of bytes in a variable length field which contains parameters determined by said ingress processor." No such feature is disclosed in Gallo et al. As a consequence, Claim 10 is not anticipated by Gallo et al.

Claims 4, 25-33, and 36-38 are allowed and they are not discussed further in this amendment.

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It is believed that the present amendment answers all the issues raised by the Examiner. Reconsideration is hereby requested and early allowance of all claims is solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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